(d) what is the assessment of such permission;

(e) whether it is a fact that foreign fund-seeking has become more of a prestigious administrative attraction in lieu of any improvement in the functioning of above institutions; and

(f) whether this policy will be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) SCICI and ICICI were allowed access to external commercial borrowings to finance their lending operations.

(c) to (e) The necessity for raising funds, the choice of markets and the manner in which funds are to be raised are all commercial decisions left to the individual organisations within the broad parameters of Government policy, taking into consideration the various options available.

(f) Does not arise.

Income Tax on Minors

2121. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are levying income tax on minors who are allowed to work as per law by clubbing their income with that of their parents;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to reverse this policy.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir. The income derived by the minor from manual work or from any activity involving a specialised knowledge or experience is not clubbed with the income of his parent.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to part (a) ,(b) and (c) do not arise.

Customs Clearance at Hyderabad

2122. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state-

(a) how many passengers have been cleared by Customs at Hyderabad Air port in 1992-93 and 1993-94, till the 31st January, 1994;

(b) whether most of these passengers are Hyderabadi workers returning from the Middle East;

(c) if so, what special steps Government are proposing to help workers returning from Middle East to have easy clearance from Customs;

(d) whether Government are aware that very often Hyderabad workers returning from Middle East are not given assistance in Bombay or at other customs; and

(e) if so, steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) During the financial year 1992-93, 11,327 passengers were cleared through customs from Hyderabad airport. During current year, 10625 passengers have cleared through customs at Hyderabad airport upto 31-01-1994.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) All passengers clearing through customs are treated with courtesy without discrimination for the purpose of expeditious clearance.

Opening of Income Tax Offices in Andhra Pradesh

2123. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government are proposing to open more offices of Income Tax Department, at Commissioner level, in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts art made to improve the image of Income Tax Department in that State; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. SHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Income-Tax Department in Andhra Pradesh is rendering satisfactory service to the assessees.

Currency Notes rejected for use

2124. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will tne Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state-

(a) what amount of currency notes of the denominations of Rs. 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and has been rejected for the use in the year 1993-94;

(b) what was the number of the currency notes; and

(c) whether Government have decided to replace above rejected current notes by Rs. 1, 2 and 5 coins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR . ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) During the period January to December, 1993, the total value of notes withdrawn from circulation and cancelled by Reserve Bank of India was Rs. 6181 crores corresponding to 4268 million pieces.

(c) All the above currency notes withdrawn from circulation are not replaced by coins of Rs. 1, 2 and 5/- denominations. Withdrawal of notes from circulation and their replacement with notes/coins is a continuous process and the replacement need not necessarily be in the same denomination.

Composition of the Principal Bench of Settlement Commission

2125. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the composition of the principal Bench of Settlement Commission (Income Tax and Wealth Tax), and its additional benches as per Income Tax Act;

(b) under which provisions of the Income Tax Act a post of Member can be increased or decreased (temporarily even) in the composition of any bench of said Commission;

(c) whether Government have transferred any post of Calcutta bench of said Commission to the Principal Bench of said Commission, New Delhi sometime in 1993; if so, the detailed reasons; and

(d) under which provisions of the Act such a step has been taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The Principal and the Additional Benches of the Settlement Commission have a Chairman and two Members each.

(b) to (d) The Government have transferred the post of a Member from the Calcutta Bench to the Delhi Bench, in order to tackle the large pendency of cases in the Delhi Bench.

Private Trusts in Different States

2126. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many registered private trusts are existing in different States;

(b) what are the details of their total capital; and

(c) what is their annual turn-over, State-wise?